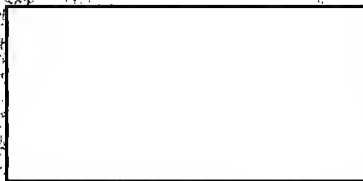


MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Bowie

Here are some notes that may assist your preparation for a meeting with Dr. Brzezinski concerning possible NSC topics.



Attachment

Date 18 August 1978

FORM 5-75 101 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

STAT

Geographic Areas (n.b., the limits of each area named are flexible and expand or contract depending on the issue)

Persian Gulf - We have treated several of these countries as important to us, but we have tended to view them in isolation. Are there unifying themes and if so can coordinated policies be developed which play upon them? Some possible themes are -

- Desire for stable, long lasting and high oil revenues.
- Tension between traditional distribution of power and new visions

25X1

- Views of the long-term impact of continuing hostilities between Muslims and Jews.

Africa - Again we have dealt with the countries of Africa as individuals, but we have also recognized two general themes which have resonated with our prior national experience. We have seen -

- The black tide sweeping away white domination, a pattern we define easily because it is part and parcel of the broader post World War II collapse of Western Europe/Anglo Saxon colonialism and is reinforced by our experiences in our own civil rights conflicts.
- The threat of Soviet expansion has been seen easily, in part because it seems a redirection of Russian expansionism with which we have had to contend for at least thirty years.

However, other tides may be running which may serve as unifying themes and provide opportunities for policy initiatives. Some possible themes, in addition to careful reexamining the two recognized themes above, are -

- Tendencies toward elevating the value of peaceful borders above contentious issues (e.g. Zaire-Angola, Mauritania-Polisario)
- The clashes with nature and between cultures across the Sahel.
- The ebb and flow of tribalism across black Africa.
- How do the Indian Ocean islands relate to the continent of Africa and the subcontinents of South Asia and Australasia?

Southeast Asia (SEA) - We have not objectively examined this region for some years although we have recently noted with interest the rising conflict between Chinese and Vietnamese interests. Some other possible themes for a discussion of long-term possibilities and hence, US options, are -

- The relations of the overseas Chinese to their host lands in SEA.
- Where, if anywhere, do critical US interests become involved as one expands an arc south and east from Saigon?
- In view of the fact that the economies of ASEAN countries compete with one another, what advantages would accrue to them or the US from a common ASEAN economic program?

Subject Areas - In addition to moving across the globe one may want to address themes that touch upon several geographic areas.

Developed and Undeveloped Nations - These relations have been addressed in various negotiations, and indeed, some general policies have been enunciated. But there are still a number of themes to be explored or questions to be asked which may imply certain directions for US foreign policy. Among them might be -

- To what extent does "military spending" constitute a drain on the economic development of a less developed country (LDC)?
- Does the solidarity of the Group of Seventy-seven show signs of wax or wane?
- What is the relationship if any between the outcome of the Law of the Sea negotiations and overall US relations with the LDCs?
- What options are there for the USSR to play a constructive role in these relationships or conversely if there are no options how could this lack of capability influence the overall balance of power?

Computer Revolution - The broad impact of the future development of computer technology in the Western World and the USSR has not been illuminated although many relevant issues have been addressed. Some broad questions might include -

- Are current trends opening or closing the East-West gap?
- What are the broad implications of having cheap, compact and versatile computers enlisted efficiently into the services of NATO and the Warsaw Pact?
- Are problems of coping with an information glut likely to arise in the Western World?
- Are there important potentials for this technology in the LDCs?

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP81B00401R002400200026-9

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP81B00401R002400200026-9